Remarks

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-3, 6-13, 65-68, 73, and 74 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Hoffman. Applicant submits that Hoffman fails to disclose an anchor-adapter-tag unit that is retained on a biocompatible polymer by the anchor. Figure 1 of Hoffman discloses a wide variety of functions that can be incorporated into a polymer backbone. Hoffman fails to disclose that a ligand may be modified with a tag and the tag and anchor linked with an adapter to retain the ligand on the polymer via the anchor. Applicant submits that claims 1-3, 6-13, 65-68, 73, and 74 are allowable in view of Hoffman.

Examiner Interview

The undersigned thanks the Examiner for granting an interview on September 20, 2002. The undersigned and the Examiner discussed the cited art and its relationship to the rejected claims.

In light of the foregoing Amendment and Remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present case is in condition for allowance. A Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

A Petition for Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136 and the appropriate fee are submitted herewith. Please charge any additional fees associated with this filing, or apply any credits, to our Deposit Account No. 03-1721.

Respectfully submitted,

Valarie Rosen

Valarie B. Rosen, Ph.D.
Registration Number 45,698

Choate, Hall & Stewart
Exchange Place
53 State Street
Boston, MA 02109
(617) 248-5000
Dated: September 25, 2002
3461577_1.DOC

I hereby certify that this correspondance is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231
on 9/25/02

Susan M. Dinsmore

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made for USSN 09/314,540

Additions are in bold face and deletions are struck out.

In the claims

1. (Thrice amended) A composition comprising a biodegradable polymer having a ligand attached thereto, wherein said ligand is attached to said biodegradable polymer **via** ~~using~~ an anchor-adapter-tag unit **comprising an anchor attached to or incorporated into the polymer and through which the unit is retained on the polymer, a tag attached to the ligand, and an adapter that links the anchor and the tag** ~~wherein the adapter interacts with an anchor and a tag simultaneously, wherein the anchor interacts with the polymer and the tag interacts with the ligand~~.

2. (Thrice amended) A composition comprising a biomaterial architecture having a ligand attached thereto through a biomolecular interaction, wherein said biomaterial architecture comprises a polymer having an anchor moiety incorporated therein or attached thereto, and wherein said biomolecular interaction **is effected by an anchor-adapter-tag unit comprising the anchor, a tag attached to the ligand, and an adapter that links the anchor and the tag, wherein the unit is retained on the polymer by the anchor** ~~further comprises an anchor-adapter-tag unit, whereby the tag is attached to the ligand, and wherein said adapter is bound to both the anchor and the tag to effect the biomolecular interaction~~.